

I would like to add my opposition to petition RM-10620. I have been a licensed Amateur over 22 years, and view the testing requirement to be a substantial and necessary element in the licensing structure. The technical skills required to be a licensed operator do not necessarily increase with age, especially for creatures of habit.

In 1980 I received my Novice license at the age of 12 and the next year traveled to the FCC office in Atlanta, GA where I passed the 20 WPM exam and the General class written exam, but failed the Advanced exam by one question. I stayed at the General level for the next 20 years, before recently upgrading to Extra under the current licensing structure. I found the book study both challenging and stimulating, and believe that removing this vital aspect of Amateur Radio would be detrimental to the hobby as it would provide no material benefit to the Amateur community as well as limited and unwarranted benefit to an individual. In order for the Amateur community to be benefited and strengthened from those with increased privileges, the privileges must of necessity come by a strengthening of knowledge.

The great number of changes in Part 97 over the last 20 years alone invalidate this petition, as the effected licensees need to study to know the rules before accepting new responsibilities and privileges in the Amateur community.

Sincerely,  
Richard Angelin - AB4N  
prior KA4OVE, N4GJX